GOVERNMENT OF INDIA
COMMUNICATIONS
LOK SABHA

UNSTARRED QUESTION NO:111
ANSWERED ON:23.07.2001
MODERNISATION OF TELECOM FACTORIES
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Will the Minister of COMMUNICATIONS be pleased to state:

(a) whether the telecom factories are producing equipments of old technology in spite of the revolution in the information technology and communications;

(b) if so, the reasons therefore;

(c) whether the Government propose to modernize these factories;

(d) if so, the details thereof; and

(e) the expenditure to be incurred thereon ?

Answer

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF COMMUNICATIONS (SHRI TAPAN SIKDAR)

(a) The choice of products manufactured at the Telecom Factories, the captive production units of erstwhile Department of Telecom, now Bharat Sanchar Nigam Limited (BSNL), has traditionally been determined by the internal requirements of the organization. The product-profile has undergone changes from time to time, in keeping with the changing requirements of the organization. Over the years, a number of new technology products have also been productionized and utilized in the telecom network in the country. The product-range is under constant review and old-technology products, which outlive their utility, are phased out by and by.

(b) Does not arise in view of answer to (a) above.

(c) The need for modernization of these Factories, and their product-profile, in view of the changing requirements of the organization and in the rapidly unfolding telecom environment, is well recognized.

(d) Production of Permanently Lubricated High Density Poly Ethylene Ducts, Optical Fiber Cable and Optical Fiber Cable Accessories is under consideration. The first two mentioned being high technology products, their manufacture will required state-of-the-art plant and machinery.

(e) The expenditure on the proposed projects, if approved, will be around Rs. 60 crores.